

Additional file 2: The National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) Evidence Hierarchy

Level	Intervention
I	A systematic review of level I studies
II	A randomized control trial
III - 1	A pseudo-randomized controlled trial (i.e. alternate allocation or some other method)
III - 2	A comparative study with concurrent controls: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Non randomized, experimental trial 2. Cohort study 3. Case – control study 4. Interrupted time series with a control group
III-3	A comparative study without concurrent controls: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Historical control study 2. Two or more single arm study 3. Interrupted time series without a parallel control group
IV	Case series with either post-test or pre–test/post–test outcomes

Merlin T, Weston A, Tooher R. Extending an evidence hierarchy to include topics other than treatment: revising the Australian “levels of evidence”. BMC Med. Res. Methodol. 2009;9:34.